

***Abstract of the Disclosure***

A method is disclosed for using aqueous VES-based gravel carrier fluids in gravel packing operations using screens and shunt tubes that have been run into a well completed with an oil-based mud. With this method, the previously necessary but undesirable steps of first running in a perforated liner and then displacing the oil-based mud with an aqueous-based fluid in the region to be gravel packed are both avoided while the advantages of gravel packing with an aqueous-based fluid are retained.